

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

Alexandria Division

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)	
)	
v.)	No. 1:04cr421
)	
ALICE JIA,)	
a/k/a Hong Li Jia)	
)	
Defendant)	

PLEA AGREEMENT

The United States and the defendant, Alice Jia, have entered into an agreement pursuant to Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. The terms of the agreement are as provided below.

1. Offense and Maximum Penalties

The defendant agrees to plead guilty to count one of the superseding indictment charging the defendant with conspiracy to commit immigration fraud and to make false statements, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 371, 1001, and 1546(a). The maximum penalties for this offense are a term of five years of imprisonment, a fine of \$250,000, a \$100 special assessment, and three years of supervised release. The defendant understands that this supervised release term is in addition to any prison term the defendant may receive, and that a violation of a term of supervised release could result in the defendant being returned to prison for the full term of supervised release.

2. Factual Basis for the Plea

The defendant will plead guilty because the defendant is in fact guilty of the charged offense. The defendant admits the facts set forth in the statement of facts filed with this plea

agreement and agrees that those facts establish guilt of the offense charged beyond a reasonable doubt. The statement of facts is hereby incorporated into this plea agreement.

3. Assistance and Advice of Counsel

The defendant is satisfied that the defendant's attorney has rendered effective assistance. The defendant understands that by entering into this agreement, defendant surrenders certain rights as provided in this agreement. The defendant understands that the rights of criminal defendants include the following:

- a. the right to plead not guilty and to persist in that plea;
- b. the right to a jury trial;
- c. the right to be represented by counsel (and if necessary have the court appoint counsel) at trial and at every other stage of the proceedings; and
- d. the right at trial to confront and cross-examine adverse witnesses, to be protected from compelled self-incrimination, to testify and present evidence, and to compel the attendance of witnesses.

4. Role of the Court and the Probation Office

The defendant understands that the Court has jurisdiction and authority to impose any sentence within the statutory maximum described above but that the Court will determine the defendant's actual sentence in accordance with 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a) and applicable law. The defendant understands that the Court has not yet determined a sentence and that any estimate of the advisory sentencing range under the U.S. Sentencing Commission's Sentencing Guidelines Manual the defendant may have received from the defendant's counsel, the United States, or the Probation Office, is a prediction, not a promise, and is not binding on the United States, the

Probation Office, or the Court. Additionally, pursuant to the Supreme Court's decision in *United States v. Booker*, No. 04-104, 2005 WL 50108 (U.S. Jan. 12, 2005), the Court, after considering the factors set forth in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a), may impose a sentence above or below the advisory sentencing range, subject only to review by higher courts for reasonableness. The United States makes no promise or representation concerning what sentence the defendant will receive, and the defendant cannot withdraw a guilty plea based upon the actual sentence.

5. Agreements Concerning Sentencing

The parties agree that U.S.S.G. §2L2.1 is the appropriate sentencing guideline for the offense charged in count one of the indictment and that this offense was committed for profit. The parties further agree that for purposes of §2L2.1(b), the defendant's offense involved more than 100 documents (a nine-level enhancement). The United States agrees, however, that it will not seek an upward departure pursuant to application note 5 of §2L2.1 (upward departure where the offense involved substantially more than 100 documents). The parties further agree that for purposes of §3B1.1, the defendant was not an organizer, leader, manager, or supervisor of the criminal activity in which she was involved, although the defendant agrees that her role in the offense was not minor or minimal. The parties agree that the defendant has assisted the government in the investigation and prosecution of her own misconduct by timely notifying authorities of her intention to enter a plea of guilty, thereby permitting the government to avoid preparing for trial and permitting the government and the Court to allocate their resources efficiently. If the defendant qualifies for a two-level decrease in offense level pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1(a) and the offense level prior to the operation of that subsection is a level 16 or greater, the government agrees to file, pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1(b), a motion prior to

sentencing for an additional one-level decrease in the defendant's offense level. The parties also agree that should the Probation Office adopt the agreements made here for purposes of the defendant's pre-sentence report, neither party shall seek an upward or downward departure under the Sentencing Guidelines. Both parties specifically understand, however, that the preceding agreements are not binding on the Court and serve only as recommendations to the Court and the Probation Office.

6. Waiver of Appeal and Review

The defendant also understands that Title 18, United States Code, Section 3742 affords a defendant the right to appeal the sentence imposed. Nonetheless, the defendant knowingly waives the right to appeal the conviction and any sentence within the maximum provided in the statute of conviction (or the manner in which that sentence was determined) on the grounds set forth in Title 18, United States Code, Section 3742 or on any ground whatsoever, in exchange for the concessions made by the United States in this plea agreement. This agreement does not affect the rights or obligations of the United States as set forth in Title 18, United States Code, Section 3742(b). The defendant also hereby waives all rights, whether asserted directly or by a representative, to request or receive from any department or agency of the United States any records pertaining to the investigation or prosecution of this case, including without limitation any records that may be sought under the Freedom of Information Act, Title 5, United States Code, Section 552, or the Privacy Act, Title 5, United States Code, Section 552a.

7. Special Assessment

Before sentencing in this case, the defendant agrees to pay a mandatory special assessment of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per count of conviction.

8. Payment of Monetary Penalties

The defendant understands and agrees that, pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Sections 3613, whatever monetary penalties are imposed by the Court will be due and payable immediately and subject to immediate enforcement by the United States as provided for in Section 3613. Furthermore, the defendant agrees to provide all of his financial information to the United States and the Probation Office and, if requested, to participate in a pre-sentencing debtor's examination. If the Court imposes a schedule of payments, the defendant understands that the schedule of payments is merely a minimum schedule of payments and not the only method, nor a limitation on the methods, available to the United States to enforce the judgment. If the defendant is incarcerated, the defendant agrees to participate in the Bureau of Prisons' Inmate Financial Responsibility Program, regardless of whether the Court specifically directs participation or imposes a schedule of payments.

9. Immunity from Further Prosecution in this District

The United States will not further criminally prosecute the defendant in the Eastern District of Virginia for the specific conduct described in the indictment or statement of facts.

10. Dismissal of Other Counts

Conditioned upon the execution of this agreement and the Court's acceptance of the defendant's plea of guilty, the United States will move to dismiss the remaining counts of the indictment against this defendant.

11. Defendant's Cooperation

The defendant agrees to cooperate fully and truthfully with the United States, and provide all information known to the defendant regarding any criminal activity as requested by the government. In that regard:

- a. The defendant agrees to testify truthfully and completely at any grand juries, trials or other proceedings.
- b. The defendant agrees to be reasonably available for debriefing and pre-trial conferences as the United States may require.
- c. The defendant agrees to provide all documents, records, writings, or materials of any kind in the defendant's possession or under the defendant's care, custody, or control relating directly or indirectly to all areas of inquiry and investigation.
- d. The defendant agrees that, upon request by the United States, the defendant will voluntarily submit to polygraph examinations to be conducted by a polygraph examiner of the United States' choice.
- e. The defendant agrees that the Statement of Facts is limited to information to support the plea. The defendant will provide more detailed facts relating to this case during ensuing debriefings.
- f. The defendant is hereby on notice that the defendant may not violate any federal, state, or local criminal law while cooperating with the government, and that the government will, in its discretion, consider any such violation in evaluating whether to file a motion for a downward departure or reduction of sentence.

- g. Nothing in this agreement places any obligation on the government to seek the defendant's cooperation or assistance.

12. Use of Information Provided by the Defendant Under This Agreement

Pursuant to Section 1B1.8 of the Sentencing Guidelines, no truthful information that the defendant provides pursuant to this agreement will be used to enhance the defendant's guidelines range. Similarly, the United States will not use any truthful information that the defendant provides pursuant to this cooperation agreement to prosecute the defendant further in the Eastern District of Virginia, except for information concerning crimes of violence or crimes involving or relating to terrorism. The United States will bring this plea agreement and the full extent of the defendant's cooperation to the attention of other prosecuting offices if requested. Nothing in this plea agreement, however, restricts the Court's or Probation Office's access to information and records in the possession of the United States. Furthermore, nothing in this agreement prevents the government in any way from prosecuting the defendant should the defendant provide false, untruthful, or perjurious information or testimony or from using information provided by the defendant in furtherance of any forfeiture action, whether criminal or civil, administrative or judicial.

13. The Defendant Must Provide Full, Complete, and Truthful Cooperation

This plea agreement is conditioned upon the defendant providing full, complete, and truthful cooperation. This plea agreement is not conditioned upon charges being brought against any other individual. This plea agreement is not conditioned upon any outcome in any pending investigation. This plea agreement is not conditioned upon any result in any future prosecution which may occur because of the defendant's cooperation. This plea agreement is not conditioned

upon any result in any future grand jury presentation or trial involving charges resulting from this investigation.

14. Motion for a Downward Departure

The parties agree that the United States reserves the right to seek any departure from the applicable sentencing guidelines, pursuant to Section 5K1.1 of the Sentencing Guidelines and Policy Statements, or any reduction of sentence pursuant to Rule 35(b) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, if, in its sole discretion, the United States determines that such a departure or reduction of sentence is appropriate.

15. Consent to Removal from the United States

The defendant agrees to the entry of a stipulated judicial order of removal pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1228(c)(5). Specifically, the defendant agrees that she is removable from the United States and consents to the entry and immediate execution of an order of removal issued by this Court. The defendant waives the right to the notice and hearing provided for in 8 U.S.C. § 1228(c)(2) and further waives any and all rights to appeal, reopen, reconsider, or otherwise challenge this stipulated removal. The United States represents that it has sought and received the Secretary of Homeland Security's permission to seek the defendant's stipulated removal pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1228(c)(5).

16. Waiver of Rights Related to Removal from the United States

The defendant agrees to waive the defendant's rights to any and all forms of relief or protection from removal, deportation, or exclusion under the Immigration and Nationality Act (as amended) and related federal regulations. These rights include, but are not limited to, the ability to apply for the following forms of relief or protection from removal: (a) voluntary departure; (b)

asylum; (c) withholding of deportation or removal; (d) cancellation of removal; (e) suspension of deportation; (e) adjustment of status; and (f) protection under Article 3 of the Convention Against Torture.

17. Abandonment of Pending Applications for Relief from Removal

The defendant understands that any application for relief from removal, deportation, or exclusion the defendant filed prior to the completion of this plea agreement shall be deemed abandoned. The defendant further understands and agrees that the filing of any applications for relief from removal, deportation, or exclusion, either written or oral, or the prosecution of any pending applications, before any federal court, the Board of Immigration Appeals, an immigration judge, or the DHS, shall breach this plea agreement.

18. The Defendant's Cooperation in Removal Proceedings

The defendant agrees to assist the DHS in the execution of the defendant's removal. Specifically, the defendant agrees to assist the DHS in the procurement of any travel or other documents necessary for the defendant's removal; to meet with and to cooperate with representatives of the country or countries to which the defendant's removal is directed; and to execute those forms, applications, or waivers needed to execute or expedite the defendant's removal. The defendant further understands that the defendant's failure or refusal to assist the DHS in the execution of the defendant's removal shall breach this plea agreement and may subject the defendant to criminal penalties under Title 8, United States Code, Section 1253.

19. Breach of the Plea Agreement and Remedies

This agreement is effective when signed by the defendant, the defendant's attorney, and an attorney for the United States. The defendant agrees to entry of this plea agreement at the date

and time scheduled with the Court by the United States (in consultation with the defendant's attorney). If the defendant withdraws from this agreement, or commits or attempts to commit any additional federal, state or local crimes, or intentionally gives materially false, incomplete, or misleading testimony or information, or otherwise violates any provision of this agreement, then:

- a. The United States will be released from its obligations under this agreement, including any obligation to seek a downward departure or a reduction in sentence. The defendant, however, may not withdraw the guilty plea entered pursuant to this agreement;
- b. The defendant will be subject to prosecution for any federal criminal violation, including, but not limited to, perjury and obstruction of justice, that is not time-barred by the applicable statute of limitations on the date this agreement is signed. Notwithstanding the subsequent expiration of the statute of limitations, in any such prosecution, the defendant agrees to waive any statute-of-limitations defense; and
- c. Any prosecution, including the prosecution that is the subject of this agreement, may be premised upon any information provided, or statements made, by the defendant, and all such information, statements, and leads derived therefrom may be used against the defendant. The defendant waives any right to claim that statements made before or after the date of this agreement, including the statement of facts accompanying this agreement or adopted by the defendant and any other statements made pursuant to this or any other agreement with the United States, should be excluded or suppressed under Fed. R. Evid. 410, Fed. R. Crim. P. 11(f),

the Sentencing Guidelines or any other provision of the Constitution or federal law.

Any alleged breach of this agreement by either party shall be determined by the Court in an appropriate proceeding at which the defendant's disclosures and documentary evidence shall be admissible and at which the moving party shall be required to establish a breach of the plea agreement by a preponderance of the evidence. The proceeding established by this paragraph does not apply, however, to the decision of the United States whether to file a motion based on "substantial assistance" as that phrase is used in Rule 35(b) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure and Section 5K1.1 of the Sentencing Guidelines and Policy Statements. The defendant agrees that the decision whether to file such a motion rests in the sole discretion of the United States.

20. Nature of the Agreement and Modifications

This written agreement constitutes the complete plea agreement between the United States, the defendant, and the defendant's counsel. The defendant and his attorney acknowledge that no threats, promises, or representations have been made, nor agreements reached, other than those set forth in writing in this plea agreement, to cause the defendant to plead guilty. Any modification of this plea agreement shall be valid only as set forth in writing in a supplemental or revised plea agreement signed by all parties.

20. Defendant's Signature

I hereby agree that I have consulted with my attorney and fully understand all rights with respect to the pending criminal indictment. Further, I fully understand all rights with respect to the provisions of the Sentencing Guidelines and Policy Statements which may apply in my case.

I have read this plea agreement and have carefully reviewed every part of it with my attorney. I understand this agreement and voluntarily agree to it.

Date: _____

Alice Jia
Defendant

21. Defense Counsel's Signature

I am counsel for the defendant in this case. I have fully explained to the defendant the defendant's rights with respect to the pending indictment. Further, I have reviewed the provisions of the Sentencing Guidelines and Policy Statements and I have fully explained to the defendant the provisions of those Guidelines which may apply in this case. I have carefully reviewed every part of this plea agreement with the defendant. To my knowledge, the defendant's decision to enter into this agreement is an informed and voluntary one.

Date: _____

Jennifer Kerkhoff
Jonathan Lienhard
Counsel to the Defendant

22. United States Attorney's Signature

I represent the United States in this case. To my knowledge, the defendant's decision to enter into this agreement is an informed and voluntary one.

Paul J. McNulty
United States Attorney

By: _____
James P. Gillis
Assistant United States Attorney

APPROVED:

Neil Hammerstrom
Chief, Terrorism and National Security Unit